



## EAST MIDLANDS STRUT OF THE LIGHT AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

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### APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Greetings one and all. What a difference a month makes. The weather has been variable with a mixed bag at weekends. The speaker who was originally booked for April has had to fly away somewhere in connection with a wartime air crash involving both the aircraft and the crew.

For April it will be a general network meeting at which we will have chance to meet new members. We will be getting Howard Heeley later in the year.

DON'T FORGET the May meeting will be on the usual first Monday and not on the second Monday as it is a Bank Holiday. It has been arranged because David Vale will be in Africa or some other exotic place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday. His talk will be **Going Foreign**. Derby Aero Club has already had this pleasure and several members already do the odd trip foreign now.

As you must all know, all the Young Aviators activities and third party flying connected in any way with the LAA have been suspended due to Risk Management and liability issues. I will try and give you an interpretation of this matter and of course the consequences of the worst possible scenario. It has been written about in the magazine so you should have a reasonable take on the situation.

Many thanks for Paul Jones and co. for taking the last strut meeting during my indisposition.

It is about AGM time so we need to have a session on the next year's committee. We need a N.C. representative for the coming year. It meets 3 times a year currently at Turweston but the intention is to move it around so that each area can have its turn and not have to travel all the time. Could be at a flying club with a clubhouse.

Project news. Steve Rice has not yet flown the Maverick, but it is now imminent. Nigel Smith has got the diesel engine on the front of his Elite and it has moved from East Leake to East Midlands. Someone spotted it regularly from the air and noticed its disappearance. There was a Car Treasure Hunt and the participants were caught out as it was a clue on the sheet but it moved just before the event causing a bit of a hiatus.

Colin Cheese has acquired a part started Chilton Racer and has now got it at his workshop. It is mainly the centre section and spars.

The Comet has leapt ahead recently. Martin has acquired a large industrial band saw (weighs over a ton) and Martin and Colin have started cutting spar wood. One baulk has been cut with 2 more to go. There will still be a need for about another 20 foot baulk. The tail plane has now been covered. This is done with curved stiffened ply. The main elevator spars were finished last weekend. Colin has an order for another pair for a Ken Fern project. Aha you may say. There is a good chance that in some time in the future there will be all 3 DH 88s. Grosvenor House original is at Old Warden. A replica is in America airworthy. Sadly the original green one, G-ACSR was burned at Istres during the war. Black Magic is a restoration so the chance of all 3 being together somewhere and at some time in the future is a distinct possibility. We need a generous benefactor to sponsor the fuel tanks and cowlings.

Please bring along any images or news of your project to the meeting. Hope to see you at The Plough as usual.

Well, that's all for now folks.

Stewart